

Special Areas of Conservation: Areas which have been given special protection under the European Union’s Habitats Directive. They provide increased protection to a variety of wild animals, plants and habitats and are a vital part of global efforts to conserve the world’s biodiversity.

Special Protection Areas: Special Protection Areas are areas which have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within European Union countries. They are European designated sites, classified under the ‘Birds Directive 1979’ which provides enhanced protection given by the Site of Special Scientific Interest status all Special Protection Areas also hold.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment: The primary role of this assessment is to identify sites with potential for housing; assess their housing potential; and assess when they are likely to be developed.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment: A key part of the evidence base required to ensure the delivery of housing that meets the needs of communities now and in years to come.

Sustainable drainage systems: Sustainable Drainage Systems cover the whole range of sustainable approaches to surface drainage management including: source control measures including rainwater recycling and drainage; infiltration devices to allow water to soak into the ground, that can include individual soakaways and communal facilities; filter strips and swales, which are vegetated features that hold and drain water downhill mimicking natural drainage patterns; filter drains and porous pavements to allow rainwater and run-off to infiltrate into permeable material below ground and provide storage if needed; and basins and ponds to hold excess water after rain and allow controlled discharge that avoids flooding.

Sustainable transport modes: Any means of transport with low impact on the environment, including walking and cycling, green or low emission vehicles, car sharing and public transport.

Town centre: Defined area, including the primary shopping centre area and areas of predominantly leisure, business and other main town centre uses within or adjacent to the primary shopping area. The extent of the town centre should be defined on the proposals map.

Veteran tree: A tree which, because of its great age, size or condition is of exceptional value culturally, in the landscape or for wildlife.

